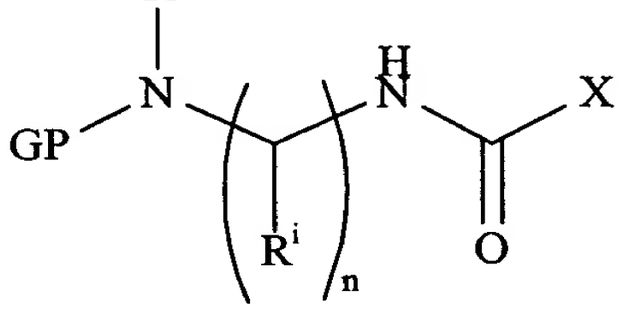
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

54. (currently amended) A compound having the formula (I bis)



(I bis)

wherein

- "n" is ~~a whole number comprised from 1 to 50~~ 1 or 2,
- "i" is a whole number varying from 2 to n+1,
- GP is selected from the group consisting of:

~~* a protective group selected from:~~

. an oxycarbonyl group ROCO, R representing an alkyl group of 1 to 20 carbon atoms, unsubstituted or substituted with an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, said alkyl group being saturated or not,

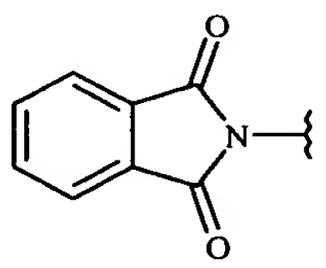
. an acyl group RCO, R being chosen from: an alkyl group of 1 to 20 carbon atoms or an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, said alkyl group being possibly substituted with an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, said alkyl group being saturated or not,

~~. an alkyl group,~~

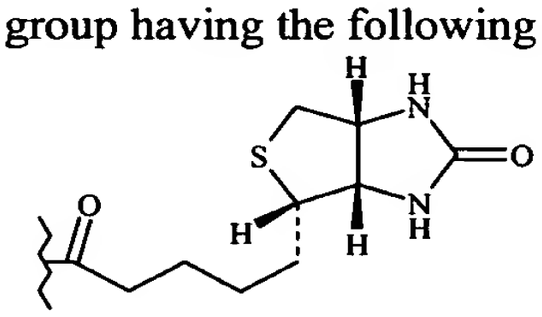
~~. an aryl group,~~

~~. a group of formula -CONHR, R being such as defined above,~~

~~. a phthalimido group (with $R^1 = Ø$)~~ GP along with R^1 and the N then are bonded to form a phthalimido group of formula:



. a biotinyle group having the following formula



~~. O_2 (with $R^1 = Ø$),~~

– groups R^1 and R^i can each represent independently from each other: a hydrogen, a halogen, the protected or unprotected side chain of an amino acid selected from natural and synthetic amino acids, a (C_1-C_{20}) alkyl group, unsubstituted or substituted, an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, a group OR_a, $-NH_2$, -OH, $-COOR_a$, $-CONHR_a$, $-CONH_2$, $-CH_2COOR_a$, $-CH_2CONHR_a$, $-CH_2CONH_2$,

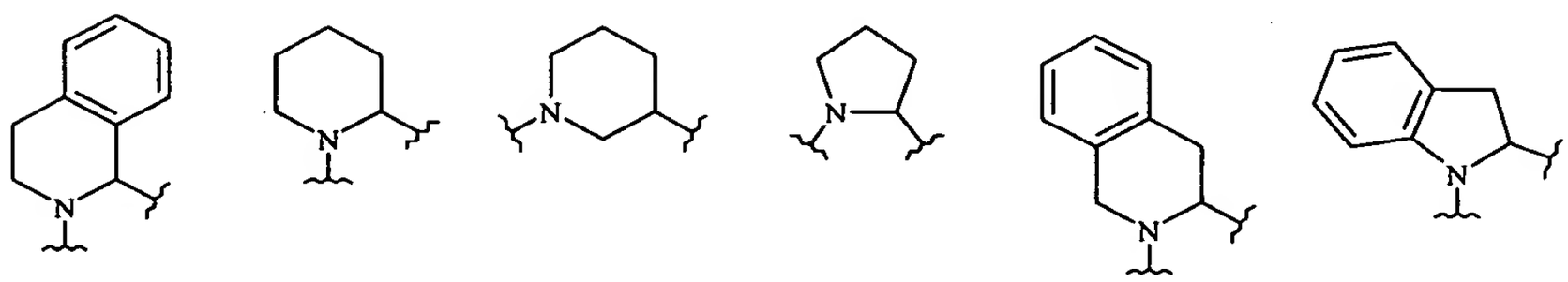
R_a representing an alkyl group, saturated or not, having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms,

~~R^1 and R^i groups can also form a cycle on the basis of intramolecular cyclisations which are as follows:~~

~~1/ cyclization between R^i and R^{i+ke}, where ke is a whole positive number,~~

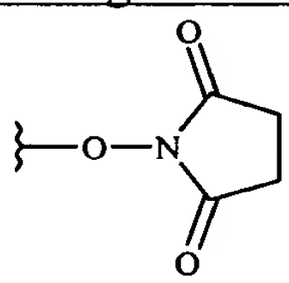
~~2/ cyclization between R^1 and R^i with preferably i = 2, 3 or 4,~~

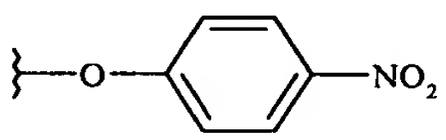
– ~~wherein~~ R^1 and R^i groups can also form a cycle with N, said cycle being selected from the group consisting of



– X group represents a ~~group conferring on the compound of formula (I bis) a structure of an activated derivative of carbamic acid, wherein said X group is derived from a compound selected from phenols, optionally substituted with at least one nitro or at least one halogen, or from hydroxylamine derivatives, imidazole and tetrazole,~~ derived from N-hydroxysuccinimide or p-nitrophenol,

said X group having one of the following formula:





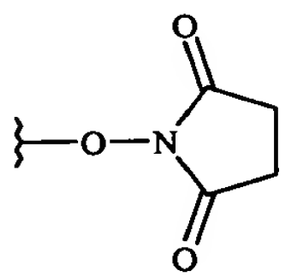
wherein said compound is not one of the following compounds selected from the group consisting of:

– n=2, GP=Boc, R^1=isobutyl, R^2=R^3=H, X=4-nitrophenol;
– n=2, GP=Boc, R^1=benzyl, R^2=R^3=H, X=4-nitrophenol;
– n=2, GP=Boc, R^1=CH_2-p-C_6H_4O*t*-Bu, R^2=R^3=H, X=4-nitrophenol;
– n=2, GP=Boc, R^1=H, R^2=R^3=H, X=4-nitrophenol.

55. (previously presented) The compound according to claim 54, wherein GP represents an oxycarbonyl group chosen from Boc, Fmoc, benzyloxycarbonyl or allyloxycarbonyl.

56-59. (canceled)

60. (currently amended) The compound according to claim 54, in which X is ~~derived from~~ a N-hydroxysuccinimide group and has the following formula:

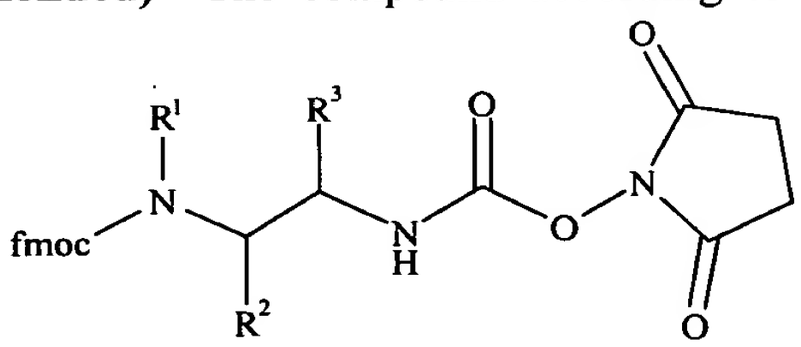


61. (previously presented) The compound according to claim 54, wherein the alkyl group corresponding to R^1 or R^i is substituted with one or several substituents selected from the group consisting of $-COOR_h$, $-CONHR_h$, -COOH, -OH, $-OR_h$, $-NHR_h$, $-NH_2$, $-NH(CO)R_h$, an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, halogen, carbonyl, nitrile, and guanidino,

R_h representing an alkyl group, saturated or not, having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms.

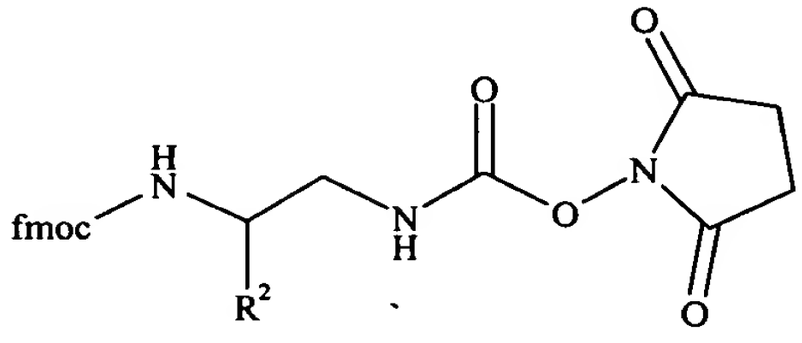
62-63. (canceled)

64. (currently amended) The compound according to claim 54, having the following formula



<u>wherein R^2 represents a (C_1-C_{20}) alkyl group, optionally substituted with a phenyl group, and wherein said phenyl group is optionally substituted with an alkoxy group.</u>

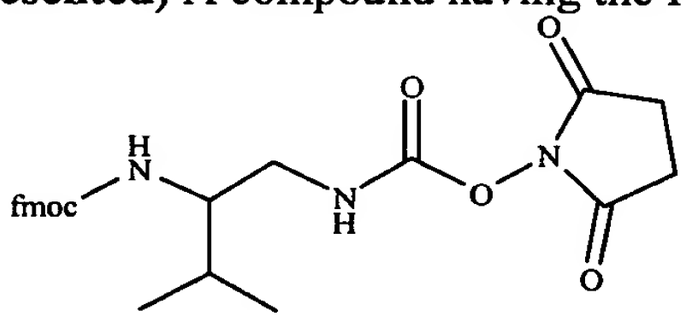
65. (currently amended) The compound according to claim 54, having the following formula:



wherein R^2 represents a (C_1-C_{20}) alkyl group, optionally substituted with a phenyl group, and wherein said phenyl group is optionally substituted with an alkoxy group.

66. (canceled)

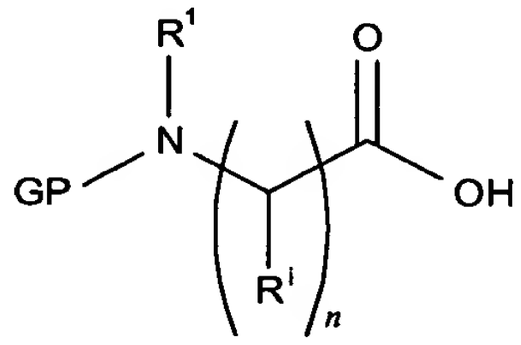
67. (previously presented) A compound having the following formula:



(Ii)

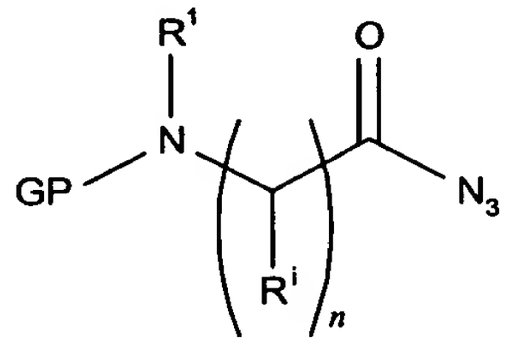
68. (previously presented) A process for preparing a compound according to claim 54, comprising:

providing a compound of formula (IX)



(IX)

transforming said compound (IX) into a corresponding acyl azide (XII)



(XII)

transforming said acyl azide (XII) by Curtius rearrangement into a corresponding isocyanate (II),

treating said isocyanate (II) under conditions that provide a carbamic acid compound of formula (I bis).

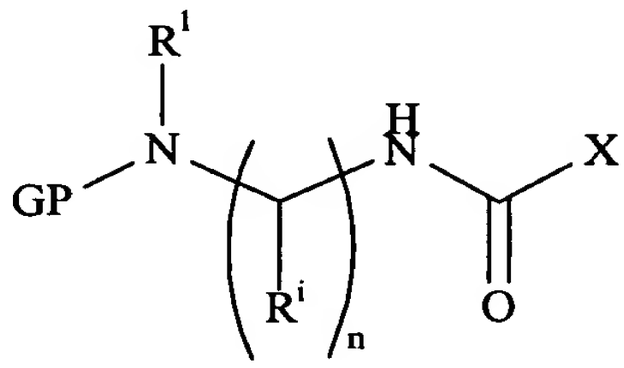
69. (currently amended) The process according to claim 68, wherein transforming said compound (IX) into a corresponding acyl azide (XII) is carried out by treatment of a mixed anhydride, formed by the reaction of acid compound (IX) with ethyl or isobutyl chloroformiate in the presence of a tertiary amine, wherein said tertiary amine is NMM (N-methylmorpholine), DIEA (di-isopropylethylamine), or Et_3N in THF (tetrahydrofurane) with a sodium azide solution,

wherein said step of transforming acyl azide (XII) into a corresponding isocyanate (II), is carried out by heating a solution of acyl azide in a solvent, and

wherein a compound selected from the group consisting of N-hydroxysuccinimide~~, phenol, pentafluorophenol, pentachlorophenol or p-nitrophenol, 2,4-dinitrophenol, 2,4,5-trichlorophenol, 2,4-dichloro-6-nitro-phenol, hydroxy-1,2,3-benzotriazole, imidazole, tetrazole, 1-oxo-2-hydroxydihydrobenzo-triazine (HODhbt), 7-aza-1-hydroxybenzotriazole (HOAt) and 4-aza-1-hydroxybenzo-triazole (4-HOAt),~~ is the compound treating isocyanate (II) to obtain a carbamic acid derivative of formula (I bis).

70-72. canceled

73. (new) A compound having the formula (I bis)



(I bis)

wherein

– "n" is 1 or 2,

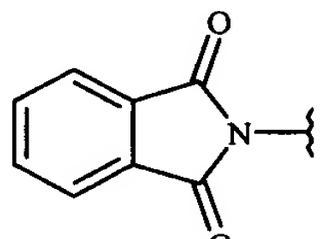
– "i" is a whole number varying from 2 to n+1,

– GP is selected from the group consisting of:

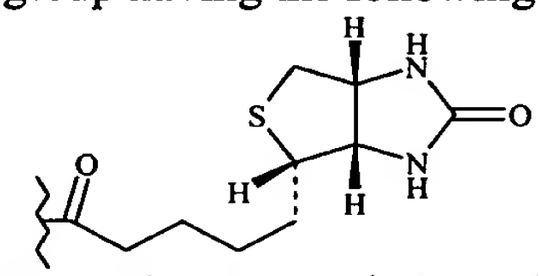
. an oxycarbonyl group ROCO, R representing an alkyl group of 1 to 20 carbon atoms, unsubstituted or substituted with an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, said alkyl group being saturated or not,

. an acyl group RCO, R being chosen from: an alkyl group of 1 to 20 carbon atoms or an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, said alkyl group being possibly substituted with an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, said alkyl group being saturated or not,

GP along with R^1 and the N then are bonded to form a phthalimido group of formula:



. a biotinyle group having the following formula

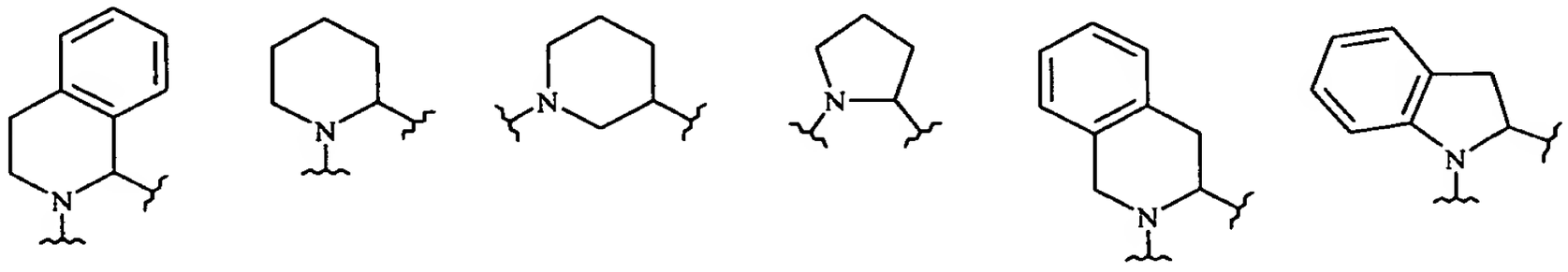


– groups R^1 and R^i can each represent independently from each other: a hydrogen, a halogen, the protected or unprotected side chain of an amino acid selected from natural and synthetic amino acids, a (C_1-C_{20}) alkyl group, unsubstituted or substituted, an aryl group

whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, a group OR_a, $-NH_2$, -OH, $-COOR_a$, $-CONHR_a$, $-CONH_2$, $-CH_2COOR_a$, $-CH_2CONHR_a$, $-CH_2CONH_2$,

R_a representing an alkyl group, saturated or not, having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms,

– wherein R^1 and R^i groups can also form a cycle with N, said cycle being selected from the group consisting of



– X group represents O-succinimidyl or p-nitrophenol,

wherein said compound is not one of the following compounds selected from the group consisting of:

– n=2, GP=Boc, R^1=isobutyl, R^2=R^3=H, X=4-nitrophenol;
– n=2, GP=Boc, R^1=benzyl, R^2=R^3=H, X=4-nitrophenol;
– n=2, GP=Boc, R^1=CH_2-p-C_6H_4O*t*-Bu, R^2=R^3=H, X=4-nitrophenol;
– n=2, GP=Boc, R^1=H, R^2=R^3=H, X=4-nitrophenol.

74. (new) The compound according to claim 73, wherein GP represents an oxycarbonyl group chosen from Boc, Fmoc, benzyloxycarbonyl or allyloxycarbonyl.

75. (new) The compound according to claim 73, wherein X is a O-succinimidyl.

76. (new) The compound according to claim 73, wherein the alkyl group corresponding to R^1 or R^i is substituted with one or several substituents selected from the group consisting of $-COOR_h$, $-CONHR_h$, -COOH, -OH, $-OR_h$, $-NHR_h$, $-NH_2$,

-NH(CO)R_h, an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms, halogen, carbonyl, nitrile, and guanidino,

R_h representing an alkyl group, saturated or not, having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group whose cyclic structure contains 5 to 20 carbon atoms.